

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 7 AUGUST 2005

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za, on packet bulletin boards and on Echolink from Chris, ZS6FCS.

In the news today:

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Stay tuned for more detail on these and other news items. Visit the SARL Web site or call the SARL office, which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

SARLNews depends on clubs and individuals for news of interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution reaches SARLNews is to place it in the correct place on web site of the SARL, which is www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will also be appreciated if you could do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The news follows in detail.

SARL HF PHONE CONTEST

This afternoon the SARL HF Phone Contest will be on the air, it starts at 12:30 UTC and ends at 16:30 UTC. Participation can be as a single operator or as a multi operator working all three bands or concentrating on just one band. The frequencies for this contest are 14,125 to 14,175 and 14,225 to 14,250, 7,040 to 7,080 and 3,600 to 3,650 MHz. Participants are requested to stay within the segments indicated.

The exchange is a RS report and a serial number. There are 8 zones to work per band - ZS1 to ZS6 and our neighbouring countries make up Zones 7 and 8. Log sheets and summaries must be sent via e-mail to zs4bs@netactive.co.za or

by snail mail to The Contest Committee, PO Box 12104, Brandhof, 9234. The last day for posting is Monday 22 August 2005.

The rules have been posted with HF Happenings 157 and 158 and are available on the SARL website.

ICASA MAKES A RULING ON CONDITIONS FOR ISSUING OF AMATEUR RADIO STATION LICENCES

ICASA made a ruling last week that all ZR license holders who wish to upgrade to a ZS licence must comply with regulation B1 (3) which states that a class A1 unrestricted licence may be issued to a person who has furnished proof of his or her ability to correctly set up, adjust and operate an amateur HF transceiver. This is in addition to the other upgrade requirements. The rule was interpreted as having applied from the May 2005 examination. IACSA has however ruled that this applies to all ZR licensees who wish to upgrade irrespective of when the examination was written. This means that ZR License holders who have upgraded since the publication of the amended regulations on 4 February and who have not furnished proof of their ability to correctly set-up, adjust and operate an amateur HF transceiver, must go back to the Assessors and do so. The Assessors' evaluation document makes provision for this requirement.

ICASA insists to see all the documentation confirming that this rule has been complied with.

In many ways this is a fun operation which could easily be set up by clubs with two Assessors present. It is important that this is complied with as soon as possible.

SPECIAL BOLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB STATION FOR HF ASSESSMENT

On Tuesday 9 August BARK will be operating an HF station at the University of Stellenbosch. All ZR's and New ZS's (those who still need to do their HF assessment) are welcome to visit the station and do their HF operating assessment.

It will be at the Sunstep laboratory in the Electrical Engineering Building. The event starts at 10:00 until 12:00 SAST. Call-in will be on 145,500 or cell 083 414 2606.

DO NOT MISS THE PRESIDENT AND INTECNETS THIS EVENING

This evening (Sunday 7 August 2005) the President's Net will be on the air at 19:00 followed by the Intecnet at 20:00. The guest on the INTECNET is Francois Botha, ZS6BUU, the Director of Hamnet. Francois will report back on the recently held Disaster Communications conference in Finland and discuss some of the outcome that will impact on future operations of Hamnet. It promises to be an interesting debate with an open to engage Francois on topical disaster communication issues.

Clubs who have not yet booked a link to their repeater should do so before noon today by sending an Email to armi@sarl.org.za. Please include details of repeater coverage and the telephone number to be linked. Both the President's Net and Intecnet will be streamed by courtesy of ZS6MRK on www.zs6mrk.org.

SARL RTA OPEN DAY ENTHUSIASM MOUNTING

The SARL Radio Technology in Action open day on 20 August is gaining momentum. With the full programme now in place, visit the SARL website to start planning which of the lectures in the three stream programme you will be attending. There are a number of disciplines being covered from construction to technology theory to operating activity. There will be various displays, not to forget the flea market during the early part of the day's activities.

Attendance is R20 for adults; learners and students enter free. Every R20 ticket is entered into the draw for one of the attendance prizes which include two Icom IC-V82 portables donated by Multisource Telecomms and a lighting protection unit sponsored by Clearline. The attendance prizes will be drawn during the final plenary at the end of the day's programmes. Spend an exciting Amateur Radio Day at the National Amateur Radio Centre. Refreshments and lunch will be available from the Sentech Restaurant or bring your own picnic basket.

OFF ROAD RESCUE UNIT OPEN DAY

Francois, ZS6BUU, is quoted below: "I was approached by the Off Road Rescue Unit (ORRU by way of Bruce Hepburn, ZR6BDH) that HAMNET be available on Sunday 7 August to assist, promote and show our commitment and allegiance to the ORRU during their open day at Hennops River".

"We form part of the Off Road Rescue Unit, the Mountain Club of S.A. and Hamnet".

"I feel it is appropriate that these organisations work very closely together for the benefit of all 3 of us, not to mention the general public in times of need. We all form part of a combined rescue effort should our resources be called upon to assist in whatever situation the unfortunate party at the other end may find themselves in".

"I therefore request as many of us (Hamnet members) to be available on Sunday prior to and after the HAMNET bulletin scheduled for 12:00, Sunday 7 August, to contact and chat to the ORRU operators and at the same time not only promote our allegiance but also to promote amateur radio and emergency communication to the general public".

"They will announce themselves in their own way on 7,070 MHz but in the Gauteng area we should also listen out for them on 145,700 and possibly also 145,725 and or 145,750 MHz".

"Please listen out on HF as well as your local repeater system from about 10:00 to 14:00".

RAE CLASSES IN THE VAAL TRIANGLE

The Vaal University of Technology will host RAE class sessions from the 10th of August 2005 under the call sign ZS6VTT at the main campus in Vanderbijlpark. Place and time: Room S305 at 18:00. The presenter is Ruaan Schoeman, ZS6RMS, and the invigilator at the exam centre is Aleck van der Merwe, ZS6MVA.

Ruaan can be contacted on 082 332 6552 or (016) 950 9418 during office hours. E-mail may be sent to ruaan@vut.ac.za or zs4pr@qsl.net.

MEGA FLEAMARKET IN PRETORIA

The Pretoria amateur radio club will be hosting a fleamarket on Saturday 3 September 2005. The fleamarket will be held at the usual place at the South-Campus of the University of Pretoria, at the corner of University and Lynwood roads. The starting time is 09:00.

Everyone, clubs, and non club members are welcome to attend. Come and visit this Mega Fleamarket in Pretoria. Phone Almero ZR6RY on (H)(012) 567 3722 or 082 908 3359 if you want to book a table or if you need more detail about the fleamarket.

DX-NEWS

Bruce, KK5DO, (<http://www.amsatnet.com/p5a.html>) reports that Dave, KA2HTV, will operate as P5/KA2HTV from North Korea on 9-23 August. Online logs will not be available during the operation, as Dave uses paper logs and the data will have to be entered into a computer when he gets back. QSL via KK5DO (Bruce Paige, P.O. Box 310, Alief, TX 77411-0310, USA). "Please limit your contacts to one", Bruce says. "Many hams were not able to work Ed, P5/4L4FN. Please allow those that did not get P5 previously, a chance to work P5 now. If you are in the P5/4L4FN log, do not send for a QSL card from this operation".

PROPAGATION CONDITIONS

This week SARLnews starts with a contribution compiled by Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, from information supplied by Kobus Olckers of IST at the website www.spaceweather.co.za.

Hierdie week begin Sarlnuus met 'n bydrae opgestel deur Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, van inligting wat hy verkry uit inligting wat deur Kobus Olckers van IST by www.spaceweather.co.za voorsien word.

WEEKLY FORECAST (04 Aug 2005 - 10 Aug 2005):

Working frequencies for the week: Unstable to very unstable working frequencies for most of the week with a possibility of sporadic-E.

Propagation conditions for the week: Fair to poor for most of the week with fading and D-layer absorption possible.

MEDIUM TERM FORECAST:

Forecast of Solar and Geomagnetic Activity: 03 - 29 August 2005. Solar activity is expected to be at moderate levels with a chance for isolated major flares through about 10 August when Region 792 is due to rotate around the west limb. Activity levels are expected to be mostly very low to low through about 24 August. Thereafter, and through the end of the forecast period, levels are expected to increase to low to moderate when old Region 792 is due to return. A greater than 10 MeV proton event is possible with major flare activity from Region 792 until its departure from the solar disk on about 10 August. The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be at high levels on 07 - 12 August, 17 - 22 August, and 26 - 27 August. The geomagnetic field is expected to range from quiet to major storm levels. A recurrent high speed coronal hole wind stream is expected to produce active to major storm levels on 16 - 18 August. Another coronal hole wind stream is expected to cause unsettled to active levels on 24 - 25 August. Otherwise, expect quiet to unsettled conditions. LONGER TERM OUTLOOK (30 August 2005 - 30 September 2005) Some degraded HF propagation conditions are still possible during the whole period due to coronal hole activity occurring during this declining phase of the solar cycle. Propagation information kindly supplied by Kobus Olckers at IST. Visit IST's website at www.spaceweather.co.za for further detail propagation information. DIARY OF EVENTS

This afternoon 7 August - SARL HF Phone Contest; This evening 7 August - President's Net and Intechnet; 8 August - Last day for nominations for the amateur radio community service award; 9 August - BARK HF assessment station on the air; 10 August RAE classes in Vanderbylpark begin 20 August - RTA Open day at the NARC; 3 September - Mega flea market arranged by the Pretoria ARC.

This then brings us to the end of today's bulletin, which was compiled by Gustav, ZS6BWN, and read byfrom..... as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL and thank you for having joined us. Also many thanks to those persons who supply news for our bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone.

/EX